

Message Text

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65 42
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAJ-01 ACDA-07 /080 W
----- 103404

R 241135Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9586
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
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AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION USNATO
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 13770

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, VT, PFOR
SUBJECT: VATICAN AND CSCE

FROM AMBASSADOR LODGE'S OFFICE

REF: STATE 177231

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFTEL, WE PROVIDED ANALYSIS OF RECENT CSCE DEVELOPMENTS TO VATICAN'S DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER SILVESTRINI AND, SEPARATELY, TO CSCE SPECIALIST SAINZ.

2. THEY EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR US PRESENTATION AND COMMENTED AS FOLLOWS REGARDING VATICAN'S POST-HELSINKI EXPERIENCE:

--- VATICAN HAS OBSERVED CONTINUING "SMALL STEPS" IN RIGHT DIRECTION IN BEHAVIOR OF USSR AND EAST EUROPEANS. IN THIS CONTEXT, THEY SAID THAT "VIBRATIONS" COMING FROM BULGARIA, ROMANIA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA APPEAR TO BE HOPEFUL AND THAT RECENTLY USSR, HUNGARY AND POLAND HAD ISSUED TRAVEL AUTHORIZATIONS TO CHURCH DELEGATIONS TO ATTEND INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS IN PHILADELPHIA WHICH TOOK PLACE AUGUST 1-8. (USSR APPARENTLY AUTHORIZED THREE LITHUANIAN BISHOPS TO TRAVEL TO US, BUT ONE OF THEM (AN IMPEDED BISHOP, THAT IS NOT FULLY RECOGNIZED BY SOVIET AUTHORITIES) REFUSED TO GO BECAUSE HE COULD NOT GET ASSURANCES THAT HE WOULD BE ALLOWED TO RE-ENTER.)

3. RE BELGRADE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE, PROCEDURALLY VATICAN EXPECTS PROCESS TO LAST FOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS, AND ON SUBSTANTIVE SIDE IT HOPES THAT CONFERENCE WILL ASSESS PROGRESS AND POINT TO AREAS WHERE ADDITIONAL PROGRESS WAS NECESSARY. IN THE LATTER CONNECTION, VATICAN IS AWARE THAT SOVIETS AND MAJORITY OF EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WISH TO AVOID "COURTROOM-LIKE" CONFIDENTIAL

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ATMOSPHERE AT BELGRADE. BEAUDRY

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NNN

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